

John Boehner  
Chairman  
8th District, Ohio

*House Meets at 10:30 a.m. for Morning Hour  
and 12:00 Noon for Legislative Business  
(No Recorded Votes Expected Before 5:00 p.m.)*

*Anticipated Floor Action:*

- H.R. 2535—Emergency Student Loan Consolidation Act**  
**H.R. 681—Designating the Carlos J. Moorhead U.S. Post Office Building**  
**H.R. 282—Designating the Oscar Garcia Rivera U.S. Post Office Building**  
**H.R. 2013—Designating the David B. Champagne U.S. Post Office Building**  
**H.R. 2129—Designating the Douglas Applegate U.S. Post Office Building**  
**H.R. 2564—Designating the Peter J. McCloskey Postal Facility**  
**H.Con.Res.151—Sense of Congress Regarding Managing Forests to Reduce  
Greenhouse Gases**  
**H.R. 1787—Asian Elephant Conservation Act**  
**S. 308—Requiring the Interior Secretary to Conduct a Study on Grazing in  
Grand Teton National Park**  
**H.Con.Res. 8—Concurring to the Senate Amendments to the Sense of Congress  
Resolution Regarding Coral Reef Protection**  
**H.R. 1779—Devils Backbone Wilderness Boundary Adjustment Act**  
**H.R. 1789—Dairy Indemnity Program Reauthorization Act**  
**H.R. 2366—Census of Agriculture Act**  
**H.R. 2464—Exempting Adopted International Children from Federal  
Immigration Requirements**  
**H.R. 1962—Presidential and Executive Office Financial Accountability Act**  
**H.R. 2610—National Narcotics Leadership Act Amendments**  
**H.R. 2204—Coast Guard Authorization Act**



## Bills Considered Under Suspension of the Rules

**Floor Situation:** The House will consider the following 16 bills under suspension of the rules as its first order of business today. Each is debatable for 40 minutes, may not be amended, and requires a two-thirds majority vote for passage.

**H.R. 2535—Emergency Student Loan Consolidation Act** allows individuals with direct student loans to consolidate the loans with their federally guaranteed student loans. Specifically, the bill (1) allows direct loans to be consolidated with Federal Family Education Loans (FFEL) until September 30, 1998; (2) maintains interest subsidy benefits on all subsidized loans; (3) requires consolidated FFEL and direct loans to carry the same interest rate of a consolidated direct loan (8.25 percent); and (4) reduces the amount the Education Department may spend on administering all student loan programs from \$523 million to \$507 million. The bill also stipulates that HOPE scholarships—the recently created \$1,500 tax credits for low income families for the first two years of college established by the Taxpayer Relief Act (*P.L. 105-34*)—will not reduce the financial aid award a student receives. CBO estimates that enactment will result in no significant cost to the federal government. The bill was introduced by Mr. McKeon et al. and ordered reported by the Education & the Workforce Committee by a vote of 43-0.

**H.R. 681** names the United States Post Office building located at 313 East Broadway in Glendale, California, after Carlos J. Moorhead. Mr. Moorhead served in the United States Army from 1942 through 1945, and presently holds the rank of lieutenant colonel. He received his B.A. from the University of California at Los Angeles in 1943. In 1949 he earned his J.D. from the University of Southern California School of Law. After being admitted to the California bar in 1949 he began practicing law in Glendale. He was admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court in 1973. From 1967-1972 he was a member of the California state assembly. He was elected to the 93rd Congress in 1972 and served until 1996. CBO estimates that enactment will have no significant impact on the federal budget. The bill was introduced by Mr. Hyde on February 11, 1997, and was reported by the Government Reform and Oversight Committee by voice vote on October 7.

**H.R. 282** names the United States Post Office building located at 153 East 110th Street in New York, New York, after Oscar Garcia Rivera. After graduating high school in 1925, Mr. Garcia Rivera began working part time at a factory in Brooklyn to finance his college career. He then received a job with the U.S. Postal Service and was assigned to the post office in city hall, where he became involved in various union activities. In 1930, he received a law degree from St. John's University. On March 7, 1937, he was elected to the New York state assembly in the 14th district, making him the first Puerto Rican elected to public office in the continental United States. He would later return to Puerto Rico where he died in 1969. CBO estimates that enactment will have no significant impact on the federal budget. The bill was introduced by Mr. Serrano on January 1, 1997, and was reported by the Government Reform and Oversight Committee by voice vote on October 7.

**H.R. 2013** names the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 551 Kingstown Road in South Kingstown, Rhode Island, after David B. Champagne. On May 28, 1952, Mr. Champagne died at the age of 19 while serving the U.S. Marine Corps during the Korean Conflict. He was killed while throwing a live grenade from a foxhole, saving the life of fellow Marine William Powers who was also in the foxhole. Immediately after graduating high school in March of 1951, he joined the Marine Corps after having served in the National Guard. Mr. Champagne was a member of the First Battalion, Seventh Regiment, First Marine Division. CBO estimates that enactment will have no

significant impact on the federal budget. The bill was introduced by Mr. Weygand on June 23, 1997, and was reported by the Government Reform and Oversight Committee by voice vote on October 7.

**H.R. 2129** names the United States Post Office building located at 150 North 3rd Street in Steubenville, Ohio, after Douglas Applegate. Mr. Applegate graduated from Steubenville high school in 1947, after which he began work in the real estate business. From 1961 until 1969 he served in the Ohio House of Representatives. In 1969, he became a member of the Ohio Senate, where he served until 1977. On November 2, 1976, he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. Throughout his career in public service, Mr. Applegate was a member of various civic and fraternal organizations including the Polish National Alliance and the Elks. CBO estimates that enactment will have no significant impact on the federal budget. The bill was introduced by Mr. Traficant on July 9, 1997, and was reported by the Government Reform and Oversight Committee by voice vote on October 7.

**H.R. 2564** renames the United States Post Office located at 450 North Centre Street in Pottsville, Pennsylvania, after Peter J. McCloskey. Mr. McCloskey has been a dedicated and active member of the Pottsville community for over 60 years. From 1967 until his retirement in 1990, he served as Postmaster to the Pottsville Post Office. During World War II, he was a gunnery sergeant instructor for the U.S. Army. Also, Mr. McCloskey belonged to several civic organizations such as the Elks, Rotary, and the Lions, while coaching little league and football for many years. CBO estimates that enactment will have no significant impact on the federal budget. The bill was introduced by Mr. Holden on September 26, 1997, and was reported by the Government Reform and Oversight Committee by voice vote on October 7.

**H.Con.Res. 151—Sense of the Congress Regarding Managing Forests to Reduce Greenhouse Gases** expresses the sense of Congress that the United States should (1) manage its forests to maximize the reduction of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere among its many other objectives; and (2) serve as a world leader in managing its forests in a manner that substantially reduces the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. The resolution was introduced by Mr. Young; the Resources Committee reported the bill by voice vote.

**H.R. 1787—Asian Elephant Conservation Act** establishes an Asian Elephant Conservation Fund within the Treasury Department to assist efforts to conserve and protect Asian elephants and support the conservation programs of Asian elephant range countries through the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). The bill authorizes \$5 million for the fund for each of FYs 1998-2002. The fund also may accept donations from private parties. The bill authorizes the Interior Secretary to use monies from the fund to provide financial assistance to projects for the conservation of Asian elephants, subject to the availability of funds and the consultation of the Administrator for the Agency for International Development (AID). Assuming appropriation of authorized amounts, CBO estimates that enactment will result in additional discretionary spending of about \$10 million over the FY 1998-2002 period (with the remainder of the authorized \$25 million estimated to be spent after 2002). The bill was introduced by Mr. Saxton; the Resources Committee reported the bill by voice vote.

**S. 308—Requiring the Interior Secretary to Conduct a Study on Grazing in Grand Teton National Park** requires the Interior Secretary to conduct a study and report to Congress concerning grazing use in Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming, and the associated use of specified agricultural and ranch lands within and adjacent to the park. The bill requires that (1) the report be completed

within three years from the date that funding is made available, and (2) the Interior Secretary seek participation from the governor of Wyoming, the Teton County Commissioners, the Agriculture Secretary, affected land owners, and other interested members of the public. In addition, the bill requires the Interior Secretary to reinstate and extend grazing privileges in the park and adjacent lands for the duration of the study under the same terms and conditions that were in effect previously. CBO estimates that enactment will have no significant effect on the federal budget. The Senate passed the bill by unanimous consent on September 16, 1997.

**H.Con.Res. 8—Concurring to the Senate Amendments to the Sense of Congress Resolution on Coral Reef Protection** expresses the sense of Congress to recognize the significance of maintaining the health and stability of coral reef ecosystems by (1) promoting comprehensive stewardship for coral reef ecosystems, (2) discouraging unsustainable fisheries or other practices that are harmful to coral reefs and human health; (3) encouraging research and education on such ecosystems; (4) improving the coordination of coral reef activities which take place within federal agencies, academic institutions, nongovernmental organizations, and industry; and (5) promoting preservation and sustainable use of coral reef resources worldwide. H.Con.Res. 8 passed the House by voice vote on April 23, 1997; the bill was amended in the Senate and passed by voice vote on October 9, 1997. CBO estimates that enactment will have no significant effect on the federal budget.

**H.R. 1779—Devils Backbone Wilderness Boundary Adjustment Act** authorizes a minor adjustment in the exterior boundary of the Devils Backbone Wilderness in the Mark Twain National Forest, Missouri, to exclude a small parcel of land now occupied by a private party. Adjusting the boundary of the Devils Backbone Wilderness will allow the Forest Service to sell the parcel of land to the private party under the 1983 Small Tracts Act (*P.L. 97-465*). CBO estimates that enactment will have no significant impact on the federal budget. The bill was introduced by Mr. Blunt; the Agriculture Committee reported the bill by voice vote.

**H.R. 1789—Dairy Indemnity Program Reauthorization Act** reauthorizes the Dairy Indemnity Program (DIP) through FY 2002. The program's most recent authorization expired on September 30, 1995. The bill also (1) requires the Agriculture Secretary to report on alternative financing options for the program within 180 days of enactment, and (2) permits funds appropriated for FY 1998 to be used to pay valid claims during FY 1997. Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that enactment will result in additional discretionary spending of about \$2 million over the FY 1998-2002 period. The bill was introduced by Mr. Stenholm; the Agriculture Committee reported the bill by voice vote.

**H.R. 2366—Census of Agriculture Act** transfers authority to conduct the census of agriculture from the Commerce Secretary (through the Census Bureau) to the Agriculture Secretary and requires the Agriculture Secretary to conduct the census every five years beginning in 1998. The bill establishes penalties for those who fail to comply with authorized census questions, but exempts certain information (i.e., social security number and religious affiliation) from disclosure requirements. In addition, the bill facilitates other changes, such as the arrangements for sharing confidential information between the Commerce Secretary and the Agriculture Secretary. CBO estimates that enactment will have no significant impact on the federal budget. The bill was introduced by Mr. Stenholm; the Agriculture Committee reported the bill by voice vote.

**H.R. 2464—Exempting Adopted International Children From Federal Immigration Requirements** amends current immigration law to allow orphans under 10 years of age from foreign countries who are being (or have recently been) adopted by U.S. citizens to be exempt from vaccination requirements. Under the 1996 Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act (*P.L. 104-208*), immigrants must receive vaccinations against specified communicable diseases in order to gain lawful entry into the country. H.R. 2464 still requires young orphans who are being adopted to be vaccinated—however, it allows them to receive vaccinations in the U.S. upon their arrival. CBO estimates that enactment will have no significant impact on the federal budget. H.R. 2464 was introduced by Mr. Smith (TX) and was reported by the Judiciary Committee by voice vote on September 17, 1997.

**H.R. 1962—Presidential and Executive Office Financial Accountability Act** establishes the positions of Chief Financial Officer and Deputy Financial Officer to be appointed within the Executive Office of the President. The Chief Financial Officer is responsible for reviewing and auditing the White House’s financial systems and records. The bill was introduced by Mr. Horn and was reported by the Government Reform & Oversight Committee by voice vote.

**H.R. 2610—National Narcotics Leadership Act** amends the National Narcotics Leadership Act of 1988 to extend the authorization for the Office of National Drug Control Policy (i.e., the office of the Drug Czar) through September 30, 1999, and expand the responsibilities and powers of the Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy. Specifically, the bill, (1) creates two deputy directors in the areas of State and Local affairs and Intelligence; (2) augments the powers of the director to coordinate efforts among and receive information from all National Drug Control Program Agencies (NDCPAs); (3) expands the director’s authority to transfer up to five percent of an NDCPA’s account between different drug-fighting agencies; (4) requires the director to submit a four-year plan to Congress to reduce drug use in the U.S. to three percent of the total population by 2001; and (5) requires the ONDCP Director to appoint a temporary administrator for the Drug-Free Communities Support Program. A CBO cost estimate was unavailable at press time. The bill was introduced by Mr. Hastert; the Government Reform & Oversight Committee ordered H.R. 2610 reported by voice vote on October 7, 1997.

**Additional Information:** See *Legislative Digest*, Vol. XXVI, #29, October 17, 1997.



## **H.R. 2204—Coast Guard Authorization Act**

**Floor Situation:** The House will consider H.R. 2204 after it completes consideration of the scheduled suspensions. On October 9, the Rules Committee granted an open rule providing one hour of general debate, equally divided between the chairman and ranking minority member of the Transportation Committee. The rule makes a committee amendment in the nature of a substitute in order as base text. It waives Congressional Budget Act requirements which prohibit consideration of legislation providing new entitlement authority which becomes effective during the current fiscal year. The rule accords priority in recognition to members who have their amendments pre-printed in the *Congressional Record*. The chairman of the Committee of the Whole may postpone votes and

reduce the voting time on a postponed vote to five minutes, provided that it follows a regular 15-minute vote. Finally, the rule provides for one motion to recommit, with or without instructions.

**Summary:** H.R. 2204 authorizes \$3.9 billion in FY 1998 and \$4.1 billion in FY 1999 for United States Coast Guard activities and programs. The FY 1998 level is \$150 million more than the amount appropriated for FY 1997, and \$97 million above the president's request. The bill also includes a variety of legislative provisions related to Coast Guard personnel and property, navigation safety, maritime regulatory reform, and documentation of vessels. Some of these include (1) amending the 1974 Ports and Waterways Safety Act by extending the territorial sea for these laws from three to 12 nautical miles from shore; (2) establishing a new civil penalty of \$1,000 for a person who interferes with the safe operation of a vessel which could endanger a person; (3) waiving certain U.S. coastwise trade laws for specified vessels; and (4) prohibiting vessels detained by the Secretary of Transportation for a violation of an international safety standard from carrying U.S. government-sponsored cargoes for one year. CBO estimates that enactment will result in new discretionary outlays of \$3.3 billion in FY 1998 and \$3.4 billion in FY 1999. The bill was introduced by Mr. Shuster and was reported by the Transportation Committee by voice vote.

**Views:** The Republican leadership supports passage of the measure. An official Clinton Administration viewpoint was unavailable at press time.

**Amendments:** At the close of business, the *Legislative Digest* was aware of the following amendment:

**Mr. Gilchrest** will offer a manager's amendment which makes numerous miscellaneous and technical corrections to the original bill. The changes, which are considered noncontroversial, include providing additional waivers to the coastwise trade laws and the Jone's Act, authorizing several U.S. Coast Guard property transfers, and clarifying an oil response vessel relief provision. *Staff Contact: Rebecca Dye, x6-3552*

**Additional Information:** See *Legislative Digest*, Vol. XXVI, #29, October 17, 1997.



PLEASE NOTE: UNDER AN OPEN RULE, MEMBERS MAY OFFER NEW AMENDMENTS TO A BILL AT ANY TIME, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THEY HAVE BEEN PRE-PRINTED IN THE *CONGRESSIONAL RECORD*.

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Amendment

Alert!

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Please attach the text of the amendment (if available) and fax to the *Legislative Digest* at x5-7298

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John Boehner  
Chairman  
8th District, Ohio

Member Sponsoring Amendment: \_\_\_\_\_ Bill #: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Co-sponsors (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Staff Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of the amendment: \_\_\_\_\_

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(Please include any additional or contextual information)

Reason for offering amendment (e.g., How will this change the bill or current law? Why should members support this change?): \_\_\_\_\_

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*Legislative Digest reserves the right to edit descriptions for style, readability, and provisional accuracy.*

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